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S. 1580

[Report No. 110-276]

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 7, 2007

Mr. Inouye (for himself, Mr. Stevens, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Kerry, Ms. Snowe, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Lautenberg, and Mr. Nelson of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

March 13, 2008

Reported by Mr. INOUYE, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Coral Reef Conservation Amendments Act of 2007".

1 (b) Table of Contents for

2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Amendment of Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000.
- Sec. 3. Findings and purposes.
- Sec. 4. National coral reef action strategy.
- Sec. 5. Coral reef conservation program.
- Sec. 6. Coral reef conservation fund.
- Sec. 7. Agreements.
- Sec. 8. Emergency assistance.
- Sec. 9. National program.
- Sec. 10. Community-based planning grants.
- Sec. 11. Vessel grounding inventory.
- Sec. 12. Prohibited activities.
- Sec. 13. Destruction of coral reefs.
- Sec. 14. Enforcement.
- Sec. 15. Permits.
- Sec. 16. Regional, State, and Territorial coordination.
- Sec. 17. Regulations.
- Sec. 18. Effectiveness report.
- Sec. 19. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 20. Judicial review.
- Sec. 21. Definitions.
- Sec. 10. International coral reef conservation program.
- Sec. 11. Community-based planning grants.
- Sec. 12. Vessel grounding inventory.
- Sec. 13. Prohibited activities.
- Sec. 14. Destruction of coral reefs.
- Sec. 15. Enforcement.
- Sec. 16. Permits.
- Sec. 17. Regional, State, and Territorial coordination..
- Sec. 18. Regulations.
- Sec. 19. Effectiveness report.
- Sec. 20. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 21. Judicial review.
- Sec. 22. Definitions.

3 SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT

- 4 **OF 2000.**
- 5 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in
- 6 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
- 7 of an amendment to or repeal of a section or other provi-
- 8 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a

1	section or other provision of the Coral Reef Conservation
2	Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.).
3	SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.
4	Section 202 (16 U.S.C. 6401) is amended to read as
5	follows:
6	"SEC. 202. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.
7	"(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—
8	"(1) coral reefs contain high biological diversity
9	and serve important ecosystem functions;
10	"(2) coral reef ecosystems provide economic and
11	environmental benefits in the form of food, jobs, nat-
12	ural products, and pharmaceuticals;
13	"(3) coral reef ecosystems are the basis of
14	thriving commercial and recreational fishing and
15	tourism industries;
16	"(4) a combination of stressors, including cli-
17	mate change, has caused a rapid decline in the
18	health of many coral reef ecosystems globally;
19	"(5) natural stressors on coral reef ecosystems
20	are compounded coral reef ecosystems are also ad-
21	versely impacted by human impacts including pollu-
22	tion, ocean acidification, overfishing, and physical
23	damage; and
24	"(6) healthy coral reefs provide shoreline pro-
25	tection for coastal communities and resources.

1	"(b) Purposes.—The purposes of this Act are—
2	"(1) to preserve, sustain, and restore the condi-
3	tion of coral reef ecosystems;
4	"(2) to promote the wise management and sus-
5	tainable use of coral reef ecosystems to benefit local
6	communities, the Nation, and the world;
7	"(3) to develop sound scientific information or
8	the condition of coral reef ecosystems and the
9	threats to such ecosystems;
10	"(4) to assist in the preservation of coral reef
11	ecosystems by supporting conservation programs, in-
12	cluding projects that involve affected local commu-
13	nities and nongovernmental organizations;
14	"(5) to provide financial resources for those
15	programs and projects;
16	"(6) to establish a formal mechanism for col-
17	lecting and allocating monetary donations from the
18	private sector to be used for coral reef conservation
19	projects; and
20	"(7) to provide mechanisms to prevent and
21	minimize damage to coral reefs.".
22	SEC. 4. NATIONAL CORAL REEF ACTION STRATEGY.
23	Section 203(a) (16 U.S.C. 6402(a)) is amended to
24	read as follows:

- 1 "(a) In General.—Not later than 180 days 1 year
- 2 after the date of the enactment of the Coral Reef Con-
- 3 servation Amendments Act of 2007, the Secretary shall
- 4 submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
- 5 and Transportation and to the House of Representatives
- 6 Committee on Natural Resources and publish in the Fed-
- 7 eral Register a national coral reef ecosystem action strat-
- 8 egy, consistent with the purposes of this title. The Sec-
- 9 retary shall periodically review and revise the strategy as
- 10 necessary. In developing this national strategy, the Sec-
- 11 retary may consult the Coral Reef Task Force established
- 12 under Executive Order 13089 (June 11, 1998).".

13 SEC. 5. CORAL REEF CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

- 14 Section 204 (16 U.S.C. 6403) is amended—
- 15 (1) by striking "Administrator" each place it
- appears and inserting "Secretary";
- 17 (2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
- 18 following:
- 19 "(a) Grants.—The Secretary, subject to the avail-
- 20 ability of funds, shall provide grants of financial assistance
- 21 for projects for the conservation of coral reef ecosystems
- 22 (hereafter in this title referred to as 'coral conservation
- 23 projects'), for proposals approved by the Secretary in ac-
- 24 cordance with this section.";

1	(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the
2	following:
3	"(c) Eligibility.—Any natural resource manage-
4	ment authority of a State or other government authority
5	with jurisdiction over coral reef ecosystems, or whose ac-
6	tivities directly or indirectly affect coral reef ecosystems,
7	or educational or nongovernmental institutions with dem-
8	onstrated expertise in the conservation of coral reef eco-
9	systems, may submit a coral conservation proposal to the
10	Secretary under subsection (e).";
11	(4) by striking "Geographic and Biologi-
12	CAL" in the heading for subsection (d) and inserting
13	"Project";
14	(5) by striking paragraph (3) of subsection (d)
15	and inserting the following:
16	"(3) Remaining funds shall be awarded for—
17	"(A) projects (with priority given to com-
18	munity-based local action strategies) that ad-
19	dress emerging priorities or threats, including
20	international and territorial priorities, or
21	threats identified by the Secretary; and
22	"(B) other appropriate projects, as deter-
23	mined by the Secretary, including monitoring
24	and assessment, research, pollution reduction,
25	education, and technical support.";

1	(6) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the
2	following:
3	"(g) Criteria for Approval.—The Secretary may
4	not approve a project proposal under this section unless
5	the project is consistent with the coral reef action strategy
6	under section 203 and will enhance the conservation of
7	coral reef ecosystems nationally or internationally by—
8	"(1) implementing coral conservation programs
9	which promote sustainable development and ensure
10	effective, long-term conservation of coral reef eco-
11	systems and biodiversity;
12	"(2) addressing the conflicts arising from the
13	use of environments near coral reef ecosystems or
14	from the use of corals, species associated with coral
15	reef ecosystems, and coral products;
16	"(3) enhancing compliance with laws that pro-
17	hibit or regulate the taking of coral products or spe-
18	cies associated with coral reef ecosystems or regulate
19	the use and management of coral reef ecosystems;
20	"(4) developing sound scientific information on
21	the condition of coral reef ecosystems or the threats
22	to such ecosystems and their biodiversity, including
23	factors that cause coral disease disease, ocean acidi-
24	fication, and bleaching;

1	"(5) promoting and assisting the implementa-
2	tion of cooperative coral reef ecosystem conservation
3	projects that involve affected local communities, non-
4	governmental organizations, or others in the private
5	sector;
6	"(6) increasing public knowledge and awareness
7	of coral reef ecosystems and issues regarding their
8	long-term conservation, including how they function
9	to protect coastal communities;
10	"(7) mapping the location, distribution, and
11	biodiversity of coral reef ecosystems;
12	"(8) developing and implementing techniques to
13	monitor and assess the status and condition of coral
14	reef ecosystems and biodiversity;
15	"(9) developing and implementing cost-effective
16	methods to restore degraded coral reef ecosystems
17	and biodiversity;
18	"(10) responding to coral disease disease, ocean
19	acidification, and bleaching events;
20	"(11) promoting activities designed to prevent
21	or minimize damage to coral reef ecosystems, includ-
22	ing the promotion of ecologically sound navigation
23	and anchorages; or
24	"(12) promoting and assisting entities to work
25	with local communities, and all appropriate govern-

- 1 mental and nongovernmental organizations, to sup-
- 2 port community-based planning and management
- 3 initiatives for the protection of coral reef systems.";
- 4 and
- 5 (7) by striking "coral reefs" in subsection (j)
- and inserting "coral reef ecosystems".

7 SEC. 6. CORAL REEF CONSERVATION FUND.

- 8 Section 205 (16 U.S.C. 6404) is amended—
- 9 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
- following:
- 11 "(a) Fund.—The Secretary may enter into agree-
- 12 ments with nonprofit organizations promoting coral reef
- 13 ecosystem conservation by authorizing such organizations
- 14 to receive, hold, and administer funds received pursuant
- 15 to this section. Such organizations shall invest, reinvest,
- 16 and otherwise administer the funds and maintain such
- 17 funds and any interest or revenues earned in a separate
- 18 interest-bearing account (referred to in section 218(a)
- 19 219(a) as the 'Fund') established by such organizations
- 20 solely to support partnerships between the public and pri-
- 21 vate sectors that further the purposes of this title and are
- 22 consistent with the national coral reef action strategy
- 23 under section 203.";
- 24 (2) by striking "Administrator" in subsection
- (c) and inserting "Secretary";

- 1 (3) by striking "the grant program" in sub-
- 2 section (c) and inserting "any grant program"; and
- 3 (4) by striking "Administrator" in subsection
- 4 (d) and inserting "Secretary".

5 SEC. 7. AGREEMENTS.

- 6 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by re-
- 7 designating sections 206 through 210 as sections 207
- 8 through 211, respectively, and inserting after section 205
- 9 the following:
- 10 "SEC. 206. AGREEMENTS.
- 11 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may execute and
- 12 perform such contracts, leases, grants, or cooperative
- 13 agreements as may be necessary to carry out the purposes
- 14 of this title.
- 15 "(b) Cooperative Agreements.—In addition to the
- 16 general authority provided by subsection (a), the Secretary
- 17 may enter into, extend, or renegotiate agreements with uni-
- 18 versities and research centers with established management-
- 19 driven national or regional coral reef research institutes to
- 20 conduct ecological research and monitoring explicitly aimed
- 21 at building capacity for more effective resource manage-
- 22 ment. Pursuant to any such agreements these institutes
- 23 *shall*—

- "(1) collaborate directly with governmental re-1 2 source management agencies, non-profit organizations, and other research organizations; 3 4 "(2) build capacity within resource management 5 agencies to establish research priorities, plan inter-6 disciplinary research projects and make effective use 7 of research results; and 8 "(3) conduct public education and awareness 9 programs for policy makers, resource managers, and 10 the general public on coral reef ecosystems, best prac-11 tices for coral reef and ecosystem management and 12 conservation, their value, and threats to their sustain-13 ability. 14 "(b) (c) Use of Other Agencies' Resources.— 15 For purposes related to the conservation, preservation, protection, restoration, or replacement of coral reefs or 16 17 coral reef ecosystems and the enforcement of this title, the 18 Secretary is authorized to use, with their consent and with 19 or without reimbursement, the land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of any Department, agency, or in-20 21 strumentality of the United States, or of any State, local 22 government, Indian tribal government, Territory or pos-23 session, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any foreign government or international organization.
- 25 "(e) (d) Authority To Utilize Grant Funds.—

- 1 "(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the 2 Secretary may apply for, accept, and obligate re-3 search grant funding from any Federal source oper-4 ating competitive grant programs where such fund-5 ing furthers the purpose of this title.
 - "(2) The Secretary may not apply for, accept, or obligate any grant funding under paragraph (1) for which the granting agency lacks authority to grant funds to Federal agencies, or for any purpose or subject to conditions that are prohibited by law or regulation.
 - "(3) Appropriated funds may be used to satisfy a requirement to match grant funds with recipient agency funds, except that no grant may be accepted that requires a commitment in advance of appropriations.
- "(4) Funds received from grants shall be deposited in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration account for the purpose for which the grant was awarded.".
- 21 SEC. 8. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.
- Section 207 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6405), as redesig-
- 23 nated, is amended to read as follows:

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1 "SEC. 207. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.

- 2 "The Secretary, in cooperation with the Federal
- 3 Emergency Management Agency, as appropriate, may pro-
- 4 vide assistance to any State, local, or territorial govern-
- 5 ment agency with jurisdiction over coral reef ecosystems
- 6 to address any unforeseen or disaster-related circumstance
- 7 pertaining to coral reef ecosystems.".

8 SEC. 9. NATIONAL PROGRAM.

- 9 Section 208 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6406), as redesig-
- 10 nated, is amended to read as follows:

11 "SEC. 208. NATIONAL PROGRAM.

- 12 "(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
- 13 propriations, the Secretary may conduct activities, includ-
- 14 ing with local, regional, or international programs and
- 15 partners, as appropriate, to conserve coral reef eco-
- 16 systems, that are consistent with this title, the National
- 17 Marine Sanctuaries Act, the Coastal Zone Management
- 18 Act of 1972, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation
- 19 and Management Act, the Endangered Species Act of
- 20 1973, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.
- 21 "(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Activities author-
- 22 ized under subsection (a) include—
- 23 "(1) mapping, monitoring, assessment, restora-
- 24 tion, socioeconomic and scientific research that ben-
- efit the understanding, sustainable use, biodiversity,
- and long-term conservation of coral reef ecosystems;

1	"(2) enhancing public awareness, education, un-
2	derstanding, and appreciation of coral reef eco-
3	systems;
4	"(3) removing, and providing assistance to
5	States in removing, abandoned fishing gear, marine
6	debris, and abandoned vessels from coral reef eco-
7	systems to conserve living marine resources;
8	"(4) responding to incidents and events that
9	threaten and damage coral reef ecosystems, includ-
10	ing disease and bleaching;
11	"(5) conservation and management of coral reef
12	ecosystems;
13	"(6) centrally archiving, managing, and distrib-
14	uting data sets and providing coral reef ecosystem
15	assessments and services to the general public. with
16	local, regional, or international programs and part-
17	ners; and
18	"(7) activities designed to prevent or minimize
19	damage to coral reef ecosystems, including those ac-
20	tivities described in section $211\ 212$ of this title.
21	"(c) Data Archive, Access, and Availability.—
22	The Secretary, in coordination with similar efforts at other
23	Departments and agencies shall provide for the long-term
24	stewardship of environmental data, products, and informa-

- 1 tion via data processing, storage, and archive facilities
- 2 pursuant to this title. The Secretary may—
- 3 "(1) archive environmental data collected by
- 4 Federal, State, local agencies and tribal organiza-
- 5 tions and federally funded research;
- 6 "(2) promote widespread availability and dis-
- 7 semination of environmental data and information
- 8 through full and open access and exchange to the
- 9 greatest extent possible, including in electronic for-
- mat on the Internet;
- 11 "(3) develop standards, protocols and proce-
- dures for sharing Federal data with State and local
- government programs and the private sector or aca-
- demia; and
- 15 "(4) develop metadata standards for coral reef
- 16 ecosystems in accordance with Federal Geographic
- 17 Data Committee guidelines.
- 18 "(d) Emergency Response, Stabilization, and
- 19 Restoration.—The Secretary shall establish an account
- 20 (to be called the Emergency Response, Stabilization, and
- 21 Restoration Account) in the Damage Assessment Restora-
- 22 tion Revolving Fund established by the Department of
- 23 Commerce Appropriations Act, 1991 (33 U.S.C. 2706
- 24 note), for implementation of this subsection for emergency
- 25 actions. Amounts appropriated for the Account under sec-

- 1 tion 218, 219, and funds authorized by sections
- $2 \frac{212(d)(3)(B)}{213(d)(3)(B)}$ and 213(f)(3)(B), 213(d)(3)(B) and
- 3 214(f)(3)(B), shall be deposited into the Account and made
- 4 available for use by the Secretary as specified in sections
- 5 212 and 213. 213 and 214.".
- 6 SEC. 10. INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF CONSERVATION
- 7 **PROGRAM.**
- 8 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 9 by redesignating sections 209 through 211, as redesigned,
- 10 as sections 210 through 212, respectively, and inserting
- 11 after section 208 the following:
- 12 "SEC. 209. INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF CONSERVATION
- 13 **PROGRAM**.
- 14 "(a) Establishment of the Program.—
- 15 "(1) In General.—The Secretary shall establish
- an International Coral Reef Conservation Program to
- 17 carry out activities consistent with the purposes of
- this Act with respect to coral reef ecosystems in wa-
- 19 ters outside United States jurisdiction. The Program
- shall consist of the development and implementation
- of an international coral reef ecosystem strategy pur-
- suant to subsection (b), and an international coral
- reef ecosystem partnership program pursuant to sub-
- section (c).

1 "(2) Coordination.—In carrying out this sub-2 section, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary 3 of State, the Administrator of the Agency for Inter-4 national Development, the Secretary of the Interior, 5 and other relevant Federal agencies, and relevant 6 United States stakeholders, and shall take into ac-7 count coral reef ecosystem conservation initiatives of 8 other nations, international agreements, and intergov-9 ernmental and nongovernmental organizations so as 10 to provide effective cooperation and efficiencies in 11 international coral reef conservation. The Secretary 12 may consult with the Coral Reef Task Force in car-13 rying out this subsection.

14 "(b) International Coral Reef Ecosystem 15 Strategy.—

"(1) In General.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Coral Reef Conservation Amendments Act of 2007, the Secretary shall submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources, and publish in the Federal Register, an international coral reef ecosystem strategy, consistent with the purposes of this Act and the national strategy required pursuant to

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1	section 203(a). The Secretary shall periodically re-
2	view and revise this strategy as necessary.
3	"(2) Contents.—The strategy developed by the
4	Secretary under paragraph (1) shall—
5	"(A) identify coral reef ecosystems through-
6	out the world that are of high value for United
7	States marine resources, that support high-seas
8	resources of importance to the United States such
9	as fisheries, or that support other interests of the
10	United States;
11	"(B) summarize existing activities by Fed-
12	eral agencies and entities described in subsection
13	(a)(2) to address the conservation of coral reef
14	ecosystems identified pursuant to subparagraph
15	(A);
16	"(C) establish goals, objectives, and specific
17	targets for conservation of priority international
18	coral reef ecosystems;
19	"(D) describe appropriate activities to
20	achieve the goals and targets for international
21	coral reef conservation, in particular those that
22	leverage activities already conducted under this
23	Act;
24	"(E) develop a plan to coordinate imple-
25	mentation of the strategy with entities described

1	in subsection (a)(2) in order to leverage current
2	activities under this Act and other conservation
3	$\it efforts~globally;$
4	``(F) identify appropriate partnerships,
5	grants, or other funding and technical assistance
6	mechanisms to carry out the strategy; and
7	"(G) develop criteria for prioritizing part-
8	nerships under subsection (c).
9	"(c) International Coral Reef Ecosystem Part-
10	NERSHIPS.—
11	"(1) In general.—The Secretary shall establish
12	an international coral reef ecosystem partnership pro-
13	gram to provide support, including funding and tech-
14	nical assistance, for activities that implement the
15	strategy developed pursuant to subsection (b).
16	"(2) Mechanisms.—The Secretary shall provide
17	such support through existing authorities, working in
18	collaboration with the entities described in subsection
19	(a)(2).
20	"(3) Criteria for approval.—The Secretary
21	may not approve a partnership proposal under this
22	section unless the partnership is consistent with the
23	international coral reef conservation strategy devel-
24	oped pursuant to subsection (b), and meets the cri-
25	teria specified in that strategy.".

SEC. 10. COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.

- 2 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by fur-
- 3 ther redesignating sections 209 through 211, as redesig-
- 4 nated, as sections 210 through 212, respectively, and in-
- 5 serting after section 208 the following:
- 6 "SEC. 209. COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.
- 7 SEC. 11. COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.
- 8 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 9 by redesignating sections 210 through 212, as redesignated,
- 10 as sections 211 through 213, respectively, and inserting
- 11 after section 209 the following:
- 12 "SEC. 210. COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.
- 13 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make grants
- 14 to entities who have received grants under section 204 to
- 15 provide additional funds to such entities to work with local
- 16 communities and through appropriate Federal and State
- 17 entities to prepare and implement plans for the increased
- 18 protection of coral reef areas identified by the community
- 19 and scientific experts as high priorities for focused atten-
- 20 tion. The plans shall—
- 21 "(1) support attainment of 1 or more of the cri-
- teria described in section 204(g);
- 23 "(2) be developed at the community level;
- 24 "(3) utilize watershed-based approaches;
- 25 "(4) provide for coordination with Federal and
- 26 State experts and managers; and

- 1 "(5) build upon local approaches approaches,
- 2 strategies, or models, including traditional or island-
- 3 based resource management concepts.
- 4 "(b) Terms and Conditions.—The provisions of
- 5 subsections (b), (d), (f), and (h) of section 204 apply to
- 6 grants under subsection (a), except that, for the purpose
- 7 of applying section 204(b)(1) to grants under this section,
- 8 '75 percent' shall be substituted for '50 percent'.".

9 SEC. 11. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.

- The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 11 by redesignating sections 210 through 212, as redesig-
- 12 nated, as sections 211 through 213, and inserting after
- 13 section 209, as added by section 10, the following:
- 14 "SEC. 210. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.
- 15 SEC. 12. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.
- 16 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 17 by redesignating sections 211 through 213, as redesignated,
- 18 as sections 212 through 214, and inserting after section 210,
- 19 as added by section 11, the following:
- 20 "SEC. 211. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.
- 21 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may maintain an
- 22 inventory of all vessel grounding incidents involving coral
- 23 reefs, including a description of—
- 24 "(1) the impacts to affected coral reef eco-
- 25 systems;

1	"(2) vessel and ownership information, if avail-
2	able;
3	"(3) the estimated cost of removal, mitigation,
4	or restoration;
5	"(4) the response action taken by the owner,
6	the Secretary, the Commandant of the Coast Guard,
7	or other Federal or State agency representatives;
8	"(5) the status of the response action, including
9	the dates of vessel removal and mitigation or res-
10	toration and any actions taken to prevent future
11	grounding incidents; and
12	"(6) recommendations for additional naviga-
13	tional aids or other mechanisms for preventing fu-
14	ture grounding incidents.
15	"(b) IDENTIFICATION OF AT-RISK REEFS.—The Sec-
16	retary may—
17	"(1) use information from any inventory main-
18	tained under subsection (a) or any other available
19	information source to identify coral reef ecosystems
20	that have a high incidence of vessel impacts, includ-
21	ing groundings and anchor damage;
22	"(2) identify appropriate measures, including
23	the acquisition and placement of aids to navigation,
24	moorings, designated anchorage areas, fixed anchors

- and other devices, to reduce the likelihood of such
- 2 impacts; and
- 3 "(3) develop a strategy and timetable to imple-
- 4 ment such measures, including cooperative actions
- 5 with other government agencies and non-govern-
- 6 mental partners.".

7 SEC. 12. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.

- 8 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by fur-
- 9 ther redesignating sections 211 through 213, as redesig-
- 10 nated, as sections 217 through 220, and inserting after
- 11 section 210 the following:
- 12 "SEC. 211. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES AND SCOPE OF PROHI-
- 13 BITIONS.
- 14 SEC. 13. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.
- 15 (a) In General.—The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.)
- 16 is amended by further redesignating sections 212 through
- 17 214, as redesignated, as sections 218 through 221, and in-
- 18 serting after section 211 the following:
- 19 "SEC. 212. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES AND SCOPE OF PROHI-
- 20 BITIONS.
- 21 "(a) Provisions as Complementary.—The provi-
- 22 sions of this section are in addition to, and shall not affect
- 23 the operation of, other Federal, State, or local laws or reg-
- 24 ulations providing protection to coral reef ecosystems.
- 25 "(b) Destruction, Loss, Taking, or Injury.—

1	"(1) In general.—Except as provided in para
2	graph (2), it is unlawful for any person to destroy
3	take, cause the loss of, or injure any coral reef or
4	any component thereof.
5	"(2) Exceptions.—The destruction, loss, tak
6	ing, or injury of a coral reef or any component
7	thereof is not unlawful if it—
8	"(A) was caused by the use of fishing gear
9	used in a manner permitted under the Magnu
10	son-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Manage
11	ment Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) or other
12	Federal or State law;
13	"(B) was caused by an activity that is au
14	thorized or allowed by Federal or State law (in
15	cluding lawful discharges from vessels of vessels
16	such as graywater, cooling water, engine ex
17	haust, ballast water, or sewage from marine
18	sanitation devices), unless the destruction, loss
19	or injury resulted from actions such as vesse
20	groundings, vessel scrapings, anchor damage
21	excavation not authorized by Federal or State
22	permit, or other similar activities;
23	"(C) was the necessary result of bona fide
24	marine scientific research (including marine sci

entific research activities approved by Federal,

1	State, or local permits), other than excessive
2	sampling or collecting, or actions such as vessel
3	groundings, vessel scrapings, anchor damage,
4	excavation, or other similar activities;
5	"(D) was caused by a Federal Government
6	agency—
7	"(i) during—
8	"(I) an emergency that posed an
9	unacceptable threat to human health
10	or safety or to the marine environ-
11	ment;
12	"(II) an emergency that posed a
13	threat to national security; or
14	"(III) an activity necessary for
15	law enforcement or search and rescue;
16	and
17	could not reasonably be avoided; or
18	"(E) was caused by an action taken to en-
19	sure the safety of the vessel or the lives of pas-
20	sengers or crew.
21	"(E) was caused by an action taken by the
22	master of the vessel in an emergency situation to
23	ensure the safety of the vessel or to save a life at
24	sea.

- 1 "(c) Interference With Enforcement.—It is 2 unlawful for any person to interfere with the enforcement 3 of this title by—
- "(1) refusing to permit any officer authorized to enforce this title to board a vessel (other than a vessel operated by the Department of Defense or United States Coast Guard) subject to such person's control for the purposes of conducting any search or inspection in connection with the enforcement of this title;
 - "(2) resisting, opposing, impeding, intimidating, harassing, bribing, interfering with, or forcibly assaulting any person authorized by the Secretary to implement this title or any such authorized officer in the conduct of any search or inspection performed under this title; or
- 17 "(3) submitting false information to the Sec-18 retary or any officer authorized to enforce this title 19 in connection with any search or inspection con-20 ducted under this title.
- 21 "(d) Violations of Title, Permit, or Regula-
- 22 TION.—It is unlawful for any person to violate any provi-
- 23 sion of this title, any permit issued pursuant to this title,
- 24 or any regulation promulgated pursuant to this title.

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- 1 "(e) Possession and Distribution.—It is unlaw-
- 2 ful for any person to possess, sell, deliver, carry, transport,
- 3 or ship by any means any coral taken in violation of this
- 4 title.".
- 5 (b) Emergency Action Regulations.—The Sec-
- 6 retary shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to prescribe
- 7 the circumstances and conditions under which the exception
- 8 in section 212(b)(2)(E) of the Coral Reef Conservation Act
- 9 of 2000, as amended by subsection (a), applies and shall
- 10 issue a final rule pursuant to that rulemaking as soon as
- 11 practicable but not later than 1 year after the date of enact-
- 12 ment of this Act. Nothing in this subsection shall be con-
- 13 strued to require the issuance of such regulations before the
- 14 exception provided by that section is in effect.
- 15 SEC. 13. DESTRUCTION OF CORAL REEFS.
- The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 17 by inserting after section 211, as added by section 12, the
- 18 following:
- 19 "SEC. 212. DESTRUCTION, LOSS, OR TAKING OF, OR INJURY
- 20 TO, CORAL REEFS.
- 21 SEC. 14. DESTRUCTION OF CORAL REEFS.
- 22 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 23 by inserting after section 212, as added by section 13, the
- 24 following:

1	"SEC. 213. DESTRUCTION, LOSS, OR TAKING OF, OR INJURY
2	TO, CORAL REEFS.
3	"(a) Liability.—
4	"(1) Liability to the united states.—Ex-
5	cept as provided in subsection (f), all persons who
6	engage in an activity that is prohibited under sub-
7	sections (a) or (c) of section 211, (b) or (d) of section
8	212, or create an imminent risk thereof, are liable,
9	jointly and severally, to the United States for an
10	amount equal to the sum of—
11	"(A) response costs and damages resulting
12	from the destruction, loss, taking, or injury, or
13	imminent risk thereof, including damages re-
14	sulting from the response actions;
15	"(B) costs of seizure, forfeiture, storage,
16	and disposal arising from liability under this
17	section; and
18	"(C) interest on that amount calculated in
19	the manner described in section 1005 of the Oil
20	Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2705).
21	"(2) Liability in Rem.—
22	"(A) Any vessel used in an activity that is
23	prohibited under subsection (a) or (e) of section
24	211, (b) or (d) of section 212, or creates an im-
25	minent risk thereof, shall be liable in rem to the

1	United States for an amount equal to the sum
2	of—
3	"(i) response costs and damages re-
4	sulting from such destruction, loss, or in-
5	jury, or imminent risk thereof, including
6	damages resulting from the response ac-
7	tions;
8	"(ii) costs of seizure, forfeiture, stor-
9	age, and disposal arising from liability
10	under this section; and
11	"(iii) interest on that amount cal-
12	culated in the manner described in section
13	1005 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33
14	U.S.C. 2705).
15	"(B) The amount of liability shall con-
16	stitute a maritime lien on the vessel and may
17	be recovered in an action in rem in any district
18	court of the United States that has jurisdiction
19	over the vessel.
20	"(3) Defenses.—A person or vessel is not lia-
21	ble under this subsection if that person or vessel es-
22	tablishes that the destruction, loss, taking, or injury
23	was caused solely by an act of God, an act of war,
24	or an act or omission of a third party (other than
25	an employee or agent of the defendant or one whose

1	act or omission occurs in connection with a contrac-
2	tual relationship, existing directly or indirectly with
3	the defendant), and the person or master of the ves-
4	sel acted with due care.
5	"(4) No Limit to Liability.—Nothing in sec-
6	tions 30501 through 30512 or section 30706 of title
7	46, United States Code, shall limit liability to any
8	person under this title.
9	"(b) Response Actions and Damage Assess-
10	MENT.—
11	"(1) RESPONSE ACTIONS.—The Secretary may
12	undertake or authorize all necessary actions to pre-
13	vent or minimize the destruction, loss, or taking of,
14	or injury to, coral reefs, or components thereof, or
15	to minimize the risk or imminent risk of such de-
16	struction, loss, or injury.
17	"(2) Damage assessment.—
18	"(A) The Secretary shall assess damages
19	(as defined in section $220(8)$) $221(8)$) to coral
20	reefs and shall consult with State officials re-
21	garding response and damage assessment ac-
22	tions undertaken for coral reefs within State
23	waters.
24	"(B) There shall be no double recovery
25	under this chapter for coral reef damages, in-

1	cluding the cost of damage assessment, for the
2	same incident.
3	"(c) Commencement of Civil Action for Re-
4	SPONSE COSTS AND DAMAGES.—
5	"(1) Commencement.—The Attorney General,
6	upon the request of the Secretary, may commence a
7	civil action against any person or vessel that may be
8	liable under subsection (a) of this section for re-
9	sponse costs, seizure, forfeiture, storage, or disposal
10	costs, and damages, and interest on that amount
11	calculated in the manner described in section 1005
12	of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2705).
13	The Secretary, acting as trustee for coral reefs for
14	the United States, shall submit a request for such
15	an action to the Attorney General whenever a person
16	or vessel may be liable for such costs or damages.
17	"(2) Venue in civil actions.—A civil action
18	under this title may be brought in the United States
19	district court for any district in which—
20	"(A) the defendant is located, resides, or is
21	doing business, in the case of an action against
22	a person;
23	"(B) the vessel is located, in the case of an
24	action against a vessel;

1 "(C) the destruction, loss, or taking of, or
2 injury to a coral reef, or component thereof, oc3 curred or in which there is an imminent risk of
4 such destruction, loss, or injury; or

"(D) where some or all of the coral reef or component thereof that is the subject of the action is not within the territory covered by any United States district court, such action may be brought either in the United States district court for the district closest to the location where the destruction, loss, injury, or risk of injury occurred, or in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

"(d) USE OF RECOVERED AMOUNTS.—Any costs, including response costs and damages recovered by the Secretary under this section shall—

"(1) be deposited into an account or accounts in the Damage Assessment Restoration Revolving Fund established by the Department of Commerce Appropriations Act, 1991 (33 U.S.C. 2706 note), or the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund established by the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1992 (43 U.S.C. 1474b), as appropriate given the location of the violation:

1	"(2) be available for use by the Secretary with
2	out further appropriation and remain available unti
3	expended; and
4	"(3) be for use, as the Secretary considers ap
5	propriate
6	"(A) to reimburse the Secretary or any
7	other Federal or State agency that conducted
8	activities under subsection (a) or (b) of this see
9	tion for costs incurred in conducting the activ
10	ity;
11	"(B) to be transferred to the Emergency
12	Response, Stabilization and Restoration Ac
13	count established under section 208(d) to reim
14	burse that account for amounts used for au
15	thorized emergency actions; and
16	"(C) after reimbursement of such costs, to
17	restore, replace, or acquire the equivalent or
18	any coral reefs, or components thereof, includ
19	ing the reasonable costs of monitoring, or to
20	minimize or prevent threats of equivalent injury
21	to, or destruction of coral reefs, or components
22	thereof.
23	"(d) Use of Recovered Amounts.—

1	"(1) In general.—Any costs, including re-
2	sponse costs and damages recovered by the Secretary
3	under this section shall—
4	"(A) be deposited into an account or ac-
5	counts in the Damage Assessment Restoration
6	Revolving Fund established by the Department of
7	Commerce Appropriations Act, 1991 (33 U.S.C.
8	2706 note), or the Natural Resource Damage As-
9	sessment and Restoration Fund established by
10	the Department of the Interior and Related
11	Agencies Appropriations Act, 1992 (43 U.S.C.
12	1474b), as appropriate given the location of the
13	violation;
14	"(B) be available for use by the Secretary
15	without further appropriation and remain avail-
16	able until expended; and
17	"(C) be for use, as the Secretary considers
18	appropriate—
19	"(i) to reimburse the Secretary or any
20	other Federal or State agency that con-
21	ducted activities under subsection (a) or (b)
22	of this section for costs incurred in con-
23	ducting the activity;
24	"(ii) to be transferred to the Emer-
25	gency Response, Stabilization and Restora-

1 tion Account established under section 2 208(d) to reimburse that account for amounts used for authorized emergency ac-3 4 tions; and after reimbursement of such 6 costs, to restore, replace, or acquire the 7 equivalent of any coral reefs, or components 8 thereof, including the reasonable costs of 9 monitoring, or to minimize or prevent 10 threats of equivalent injury to, or destruc-11 tion of coral reefs, or components thereof. 12 "(2) Restoration considerations.—In devel-13 opment of restoration alternatives under paragraph 14 (1)(C), the Secretary shall consider State and terri-15 torial preferences and, if appropriate, shall prioritize 16 restoration projects with geographic and ecological 17 linkages to the injured resources. 18 "(e) Statute of Limitations.—An action for re-19 sponse costs or damages under subsection (c) shall be 20 barred unless the complaint is filed within 3 years after 21 the date on which the Secretary completes a damage as-22 sessment and restoration plan for the coral reefs, or components thereof, to which the action relates. If the Secretary fails to complete such damage assessment and restoration plan within one year after discovery of the dam-

- 1 age, then for the purposes of this subsection such assess-
- 2 ment and plan shall be deemed to have been completed
- 3 by the Secretary on the 366th day following discovery of
- 4 the damage.
- 5 "(f) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES.—In the
- 6 event of threatened or actual destruction of, loss of, or
- 7 injury to a coral reef or component thereof resulting from
- 8 an incident caused by a component of any Department or
- 9 agency of the United States Government, the cognizant
- 10 Department or agency shall satisfy its obligations under
- 11 this section by promptly, in coordination with the Sec-
- 12 retary, taking appropriate actions to respond to and miti-
- 13 gate the harm and restoring or replacing the coral reef
- 14 or components thereof and reimbursing the Secretary for
- 15 all assessment costs.".
- 16 SEC. 14. ENFORCEMENT.
- 17 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 18 by inserting after section 212, as added by section 13, the
- 19 following:
- 20 "SEC. 213. ENFORCEMENT.
- 21 SEC. 15. ENFORCEMENT.
- 22 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 23 by inserting after section 213, as added by section 14, the
- 24 following:

"SEC. 214. ENFORCEMENT.

2	"(a) In General.—The Secretary shall conduct en-
3	forcement activities to carry out this title.
4	"(b) Powers of Authorized Officers.—Any per-
5	son who is authorized to enforce this title may—
6	"(1) board, search, inspect, and seize any vessel
7	or other conveyance suspected of being used to vio-
8	late this title, any regulation promulgated under this
9	title, or any permit issued under this title, and any
10	equipment, stores, and cargo of such vessel;
11	"(2) seize wherever found any component of
12	coral reef taken or retained in violation of this title,
13	any regulation promulgated under this title, or any
14	permit issued under this title;
15	"(3) seize any evidence of a violation of this
16	title, any regulation promulgated under this title, or
17	any permit issued under this title;
18	"(4) execute any warrant or other process
19	issued by any court of competent jurisdiction;
20	"(5) exercise any other lawful authority; and
21	"(6) arrest any person, if there is reasonable
22	cause to believe that such person has committed an
23	act prohibited by section 211. 212.
24	"(c) Civil Enforcement and Permit Sanc-
25	TIONS.—

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"(1) Civil administrative penalty.—Any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States who violates this title or any regulation promulgated or permit issued hereunder, shall be liable to the United States for a civil administrative penalty of not more than \$200,000 for each such violation, to be assessed by the Secretary. Each day of a continuing violation shall constitute a separate violation. In determining the amount of civil administrative penalty, the Secretary shall take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, and any history of prior violations, and such other matters as justice may require. In assessing such penalty, the Secretary may also consider information related to the ability of the violator to pay.

"(2) PERMIT SANCTIONS.—For any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States who has been issued or has applied for a permit under this title, and who violates this title or any regulation or permit issued under this title, the Secretary may deny, suspend, amend, or revoke in whole or in part any such permit. For any person who has failed to pay or defaulted on a payment agreement of any

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civil penalty or criminal fine or liability assessed pursuant to any natural resource law administered by the Secretary, the Secretary may deny, suspend, amend or revoke in whole or in part any permit issued or applied for under this title.

"(3) Imposition of civil judicial pen-ALTIES.—Any person who violates any provision of this title, any regulation promulgated or permit issued thereunder, shall be subject to a civil judicial penalty not to exceed \$250,000 for each such violation. Each day of a continuing violation shall constitute a separate violation. The Attorney General, upon the request of the Secretary, may commence a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States, and such court shall have jurisdiction to award civil penalties and such other relief as justice may require. In determining the amount of a civil penalty, the court shall take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior violations, and such other matters as justice may require. In imposing such penalty, the district court may also consider information related to the ability of the violator to pay.

- "(4) Notice.—No penalty or permit sanction shall be assessed under this subsection until after the person charged has been given notice and an opportunity for a hearing.
 - "(5) IN REM JURISDICTION.—A vessel used in violating this title, any regulation promulgated under this title, or any permit issued under this title, shall be liable in rem for any civil penalty assessed for such violation. Such penalty shall constitute a maritime lien on the vessel and may be recovered in an action in rem in the district court of the United States having jurisdiction over the vessel.
 - "(6) Collection of Penalties.—If any person fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty under this section after it has become a final and unappealable order, or after the appropriate court has entered final judgment in favor of the Secretary, the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Attorney General, who shall recover the amount assessed in any appropriate district court of the United States (plus interest at current prevailing rates from the date of the final order). In such action, the validity and appropriateness of the final order imposing the civil penalty shall not be subject to review. Any person who fails to pay, on a timely basis, the amount

of an assessment of a civil penalty shall be required to pay, in addition to such amount and interest, attorney's fees and costs for collection proceedings and a quarterly nonpayment penalty for each quarter during which such failure to pay persists. Such nonpayment penalty shall be in an amount equal to 20 percent of the aggregate amount of such person's penalties and nonpayment penalties that are unpaid as of the beginning of such quarter.

- "(7) Compromise or other action by Sec-Retary.—The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit, with or without conditions, any civil administrative penalty or permit sanction which is or may be imposed under this section and that has not been referred to the Attorney General for further enforcement action.
- "(8) JURISIDICTION.—The several district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction over any actions brought by the United States arising under this section. For the purpose of this section, American Samoa shall be included within the judicial district of the District Court of the United States for the District of Hawaii. Each violation shall be a separate offense and the offense shall be deemed to have been committed not only in the dis-

1 trict where the violation first occurred, but also in 2 any other district as authorized by law. "(d) Forfeiture.— 3 "(1) Criminal forfeiture.—A person who is 5 convicted of an offense in violation of this title shall 6 forfeit to the United States— "(A) any property, real or personal, consti-7 8 tuting or traceable to the gross proceeds taken, 9 obtained, or retained, in connection with or as a result of the offense, including, without limi-10 11 tation, any coral reef or coral reef component 12 (or the fair market value thereof); and 13 "(B) any property, real or personal, used 14 or intended to be used, in any manner, to com-15 mit or facilitate the commission of the offense, 16 including, without limitation, any vessel (includ-17 ing the vessel's equipment, stores, catch and 18 cargo), vehicle, aircraft, or other means of 19 transportation. 20 Pursuant to section 2461(c) of title 28, United 21 States Code, the provisions of section 413 of the 22 Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 853) other 23 than subsection (d) thereof shall apply to criminal forfeitures under this section. 24

- "(2) CIVIL FORFEITURE.—The property set forth below shall be forfeited shall be subject to forfeiture to the United States in accordance with the provisions of chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code, and no property right shall exist in it:
 - "(A) Any property, real or personal, constituting or traceable to the gross proceeds taken, obtained, or retained, in connection with or as a result of a violation of this title, including, without limitation, any coral reef or coral reef component (or the fair market value thereof).
 - "(B) Any property, real or personal, used or intended to be used, in any manner, to commit or facilitate the commission of a violation of this title, including, without limitation, any vessel (including the vessel's equipment, stores, catch and cargo), vehicle, aircraft, or other means of transportation.
 - "(3) APPLICATION OF THE CUSTOMS LAWS.— All provisions of law relating to seizure, summary judgment, and judicial forfeiture and condemnation for violation of the customs laws, the disposition of the property forfeited or condemned or the proceeds from the sale thereof, the remission or mitigation of

such forfeitures, and the compromise of claims shall apply to seizures and forfeitures incurred, or alleged to have been incurred, under the provisions of this title, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions hereof. For seizures and forfeitures of property under this section by the Secretary, such duties as are imposed upon the customs officer or any other person with respect to the seizure and forfeiture of property under the customs law may be performed by such officers as are designated by the Secretary or, upon request of the Secretary, by any other agency that has authority to manage and dispose of seized property.

"(4) Presumption.—For the purposes of this section there is a rebuttable presumption that all coral reefs, or components thereof, found on board a vessel that is used or seized in connection with a violation of this title or of any regulation promulgated under this title were taken, obtained, or retained in violation of this title or of a regulation promulgated under this title.

"(e) Payment of Storage, Care, and Other Costs.—Any person assessed a civil penalty for a violation of this title or of any regulation promulgated under this title and any claimant in a forfeiture action brought

1	for such a violation, shall be liable for the reasonable costs
2	incurred by the Secretary in storage, care, and mainte-
3	nance of any property seized in connection with the viola-
4	tion.
5	"(f) Expenditures.—
6	"(1) Notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31,
7	United States Code, or section 311 of the Magnu-
8	son-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management
9	Act (16 U.S.C. 1861), amounts received by the
10	United States as civil penalties under subsection (c)
11	of this section, forfeitures of property under sub-
12	section (d) of this section, and costs imposed under
13	subsection (e) of this section, shall—
14	"(A) be placed into an account;
15	"(B) be available for use by the Secretary
16	without further appropriation; and
17	"(C) remain available until expended.
18	"(2) Amounts received under this section for
19	forfeitures under subsection (d) and costs imposed
20	under subsection (e) shall be used to pay the reason-
21	able and necessary costs incurred by the Secretary
22	to provide temporary storage, care, maintenance,
23	and disposal of any property seized in connection
24	with a violation of this title or any regulation pro-
25	mulgated under this title.

1	"(3) Amounts received under this section as
2	civil penalties under subsection (c) of this section
3	and any amounts remaining after the operation of
4	paragraph (2) of this subsection shall—
5	"(A) be used to stabilize, restore, or other-
6	wise manage the coral reef with respect to
7	which the violation occurred that resulted in the
8	penalty or forfeiture;
9	"(B) be transferred to the Emergency Re-
10	sponse, Stabilization, and Restoration Account
11	established under section 208(d) or an account
12	described in section $212(d)(1)$ $213(d)(1)$ of this
13	title, to reimburse such account for amounts
14	used for authorized emergency actions;
15	"(C) be used to conduct monitoring and
16	enforcement activities;
17	"(D) be used to conduct research on tech-
18	niques to stabilize and restore coral reefs;
19	"(E) be used to conduct activities that pre-
20	vent or reduce the likelihood of future damage
21	to coral reefs;
22	"(F) be used to stabilize, restore or other-
23	wise manage any other coral reef; or
24	"(G) be used to pay a reward to any per-
25	son who furnishes information leading to an as-

sessment of a civil penalty, or to a forfeiture of property, for a violation of this title or any regulation promulgated under this title.

"(g) Criminal Enforcement.—

- "(1) Any person (other than a foreign government or any entity of such government) who knowingly commits any act prohibited by section 211(b) 212(c) of this title shall be imprisoned for not more than 5 years and shall be fined not more than \$500,000 for individuals or \$1,000,000 for an organization; except that if in the commission of any such offense the individual uses a dangerous weapon, engages in conduct that causes bodily injury to any officer authorized to enforce the provisions of this title, or places any such officer in fear of imminent bodily injury, the maximum term of imprisonment is not more than 10 years.
- "(2) Any person (other than a foreign government or any entity of such government) who knowingly violates subsection (a) or (e) of section 211 (b), (d), or (e) of section 212 shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned not more than 5 years or both.
- 24 "(3) Any person (other than a foreign govern-25 ment or any entity of such government) who violates

1 subsection (b), (d), or (e) of section 212, and who, in 2 the exercise of due care should know that such per-3 son's conduct violates subsection (b), (d), or (e) of sec-4 tion 212, shall be fined under title 18, United States 5 Code, or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both. 6 "(3) (4) The several district courts of the 7 United States shall have jurisdiction over any ac-8 tions brought by the United States arising under 9 this subsection. For the purpose of this subsection, 10 American Samoa shall be included within the judi-11 cial district of the District Court of the United 12 States for the District of Hawaii. Each violation 13 shall be a separate offense and the offense shall be 14 deemed to have been committed not only in the dis-15 trict where the violation first occurred, but also in 16 any other district as authorized by law. Any offenses 17 not committed in any district are subject to the 18 venue provisions of section 3238 of title 18, United 19 States Code. 20 "(h) Subpoenas.—In the case of any investigation 21 or hearing under this section or any other natural resource 22 statute administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration which is determined on the record in accordance with the procedures provided for under section 554 of title 5, United States Code, the Secretary may

- 1 issue subpoenas for the attendance and testimony of wit-
- 2 nesses and the production of relevant papers, books, elec-
- 3 tronic files, and documents, and may administer oaths.
- 4 "(i) Coast Guard Authority Not Limited.—
- 5 Nothing in this section shall be considered to limit the au-
- 6 thority of the Coast Guard to enforce this or any other
- 7 Federal law under section 89 of title 14, United States
- 8 Code.

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"(j) Injunctive Relief.—

"(1) If the Secretary determines that there is an imminent risk of destruction or loss of or injury to a coral reef, or that there has been actual destruction or loss of, or injury to, a coral reef which may give rise to liability under section 212 213 of this title, the Attorney General, upon request of the Secretary, shall seek to obtain such relief as may be necessary to abate such risk or actual destruction, loss, or injury, or to restore or replace the coral reef, or both. The district courts of the Unites States shall have jurisdiction in such a case to order such relief as the public interest and the equities of the case may require.

"(2) Upon the request of the Secretary, the Attorney General may seek to enjoin any person who is alleged to be in violation of any provision of this

- 1 title, or any regulation or permit issued under this
- 2 title, and the district courts shall have jurisdiction to
- 3 grant such relief.
- 4 "(k) Area of Application and Enforce-
- 5 ABILITY.—The area of application and enforceability of
- 6 this title includes the internal waters of the United States,
- 7 the territorial sea of the United States, as described in
- 8 Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27, 1988,
- 9 the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States as de-
- 10 scribed in Presidential Proclamation 5030 of March 10,
- 11 1983, and the continental shelf, consistent with inter-
- 12 national law.
- 13 "(1) Nationwide Service of Process.—In any ac-
- 14 tion by the United States under this title, process may
- 15 be served in any district where the defendant is found,
- 16 resides, transacts business, or has appointed an agent for
- 17 the service of process, and for civil cases may also be
- 18 served in a place not within the United States in accord-
- 19 ance with rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 20 "(m) Venue in Civil Actions.—A civil action
- 21 under this title may be brought in the United States dis-
- 22 trict court for any district in which—
- 23 "(1) the defendant is located, resides, or is
- doing business, in the case of an action against a
- 25 person;

- 1 "(2) the vessel is located, in the case of an action against a vessel;
- "(3) the destruction of, loss of, or injury to a coral reef, or component thereof, occurred or in which there is an imminent risk of such destruction, loss, or injury; or
- 7 "(4) where some or all of the coral reef or com-8 ponent thereof that is the subject of the action is not 9 within the territory covered by any United States 10 district court, such action may be brought either in 11 the United States district court for the district clos-12 est to the location where the destruction, loss, in-13 jury, or risk of injury occurred, or in the United 14 States District Court for the District of Columbia.".
- 15 **SEC. 15. PERMITS.**
- The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 17 by inserting after section 213, as added by section 14, the
- 18 following:
- 19 **"SEC. 214. PERMITS.**
- 20 **SEC. 16. PERMITS.**
- 21 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 22 by inserting after section 214, as added by section 14, the
- 23 following:

52 1 "SEC. 215. PERMITS. 2 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may allow for the 3 conduct of— 4 "(1) bona fide research, and 5 "(2) activities that would otherwise be prohib-6 ited by this title or regulations issued thereunder, 7 through issuance of coral reef conservation permits in ac-8 cordance with regulations issued under this title. 9 "(b) Limitation of Non-Research Activities.— The Secretary may not issue a permit for activities other 10 than for bona fide research unless the Secretary finds— 11 "(1) the activity proposed to be conducted is 12 13 compatible with one or more of the purposes in sec-14 tion 202(b) of this title; 15 "(2) the activity conforms to the provisions of 16 all other laws and regulations applicable to the area 17 for which such permit is to be issued; and 18 "(3) there is no practicable alternative to con-19 ducting the activity in a manner that destroys, 20 causes the loss of, or injures any coral reef or any 21 component thereof. 22 "(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may

- 23 place any terms and conditions on a permit issued under
- 24 this section that the Secretary deems reasonable.
- 25 "(d) Fees.—

1	"(1) Assessment and collection.—Subject
2	to regulations issued under this title, the Secretary
3	may assess and collect fees as specified in this sub-
4	section.
5	"(2) Amount.—Any fee assessed shall be equal
6	to the sum of—
7	"(A) all costs incurred, or expected to be
8	incurred, by the Secretary in processing the
9	permit application, including indirect costs; and
10	"(B) if the permit is approved, all costs in-
11	curred, or expected to be incurred, by the Sec-
12	retary as a direct result of the conduct of the
13	activity for which the permit is issued, including
14	costs of monitoring the conduct of the activity
15	and educating the public about the activity and
16	coral reef resources related to the activity.
17	"(3) Use of fees.—Amounts collected by the
18	Secretary in the form of fees under this section shall
19	be collected and available for use only to the extent
20	provided in advance in appropriations Acts and may
21	be used by the Secretary for issuing and admin-
22	istering permits under this section.
23	"(4) Waiver or reduction of fees.—For
24	any fee assessed under paragraph (2) of this sub-

section, the Secretary may—

1	"(A) accept in-kind contributions in lieu of
2	a fee; or
3	"(B) waive or reduce the fee.
4	"(e) FISHING.—Nothing in this section shall be con-
5	sidered to require a person to obtain a permit under this
6	section for the conduct of any fishing activities not prohib-
7	ited by this title or regulations issued thereunder.".
8	SEC. 16. REGIONAL, STATE, AND TERRITORIAL COORDINA-
9	TION
10	The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
11	by inserting after section 214, as added by section 15, the
12	following:
13	"SEC. 215. REGIONAL, STATE, AND TERRITORIAL COORDI-
14	NATION.
15	SEC. 17. REGIONAL, STATE, AND TERRITORIAL COORDINA-
16	TION.
17	The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
18	by inserting after section 215, as added by section 16, the
19	following:
20	"SEC. 216. REGIONAL, STATE, AND TERRITORIAL COORDI-
21	NATION.
22	"(a) REGIONAL COORDINATION.—The Secretary and
23	other Federal members of the Coral Reef Task Force shall
24	work in coordination and collaboration with other Federal
25	agencies States and United States territorial govern-

- 1 ments to implement the strategies developed under section
- 2 203, including regional and local strategies, to address
- 3 multiple threats to coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems
- 4 such as coastal runoff, vessel impacts, and overharvesting.
- 5 "(b) Response and Restoration Activities.—
- 6 The Secretary shall, when appropriate, enter into a writ-
- 7 ten agreement with any affected State regarding the man-
- 8 ner in which response and restoration activities will be
- 9 conducted within the affected State's waters.
- 10 "(b) Response and Restoration Activities.—The
- 11 Secretary shall enter into written agreements with any
- 12 States in which coral reefs are located regarding the man-
- 13 ner in which response and restoration activities will be con-
- 14 ducted within the affected State's waters. Nothing in this
- 15 subsection shall be construed to limit Federal response and
- 16 restoration activity authority before any such agreement is
- 17 final.
- 18 "(c) Cooperative Enforcement Agreements.—
- 19 All cooperative enforcement agreements in place between
- 20 the Secretary and States affected by this title shall be up-
- 21 dated to include enforcement of this title where appro-
- 22 priate.".

1 SEC. 17. REGULATIONS.

- 2 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 3 by inserting after section 215, as added by section 16, the
- 4 following:
- 5 "SEC. 216. REGULATIONS.
- 6 SEC. 18. REGULATIONS.
- 7 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended
- 8 by inserting after section 216, as added by section 17, the
- 9 following:
- 10 "SEC. 217. REGULATIONS.
- 11 "The Secretary may issue such regulations as are
- 12 necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes of
- 13 this title. This title and any regulations promulgated
- 14 under this title shall be applied in accordance with inter-
- 15 national law. No restrictions shall apply to or be enforced
- 16 against a person who is not a citizen, national, or resident
- 17 alien of the United States (including foreign flag vessels)
- 18 unless in accordance with international law.".
- 19 SEC. 18. EFFECTIVENESS REPORT.
- 20 Section 217 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6407), as redesig-
- 21 nated, is amended to read as follows:
- 22 "SEC. 217. EFFECTIVENESS REPORT.
- 23 SEC. 19. EFFECTIVENESS REPORT.
- 24 Section 218 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6407), as redesig-
- 25 nated, is amended to read as follows:

1 "SEC. 218. EFFECTIVENESS REPORT.

2	"Not later than March 1, 2009, and every 3 years
3	thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee
4	on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate
5	and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House
6	of Representatives a report describing all activities under-
7	taken to implement the strategy, including—
8	"(1) a description of the funds obligated by
9	each participating Federal agency to advance coral
10	reef conservation during each of the 3 fiscal years
11	next preceding the fiscal year in which the report is
12	submitted;
13	"(2) a description of Federal interagency and
14	cooperative efforts with States and United States
15	territories to prevent or address overharvesting,
16	coastal runoff, or other anthropogenic impacts on
17	coral reefs, including projects undertaken with the
18	Department of Interior, Department of Agriculture,
19	the Environmental Protection Agency, and the
20	United States Army Corps of Engineers;
21	"(3) a summary of the information contained in
22	the vessel grounding inventory established under sec-
23	tion 210, including additional authorization or fund-
24	ing, needed for response and removal of such ves-
25	sels;"

- 1 "(4) a description of Federal disaster response 2 actions taken pursuant to the National Response 3 Plan to address damage to coral reefs and coral reef 4 ecosystems; and "(5) an assessment of the condition of United 6 States coral reefs, accomplishments under this Act, 7 and the effectiveness of management actions to ad-8 dress threats to coral reefs.". SEC. 19. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS. 10 Section 218 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6408), as redesig-11 nated, is amended— 12 SEC. 20. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
- 13 Section 219 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6408), as redesig-14 nated, is amended—
- 15 (1) by striking "\$16,000,000 for each of fiscal 16 years 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004," in subsection 17 (a) and inserting "\$34,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, 18 \$36,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, \$38,000,000 for 19 fiscal year 2010, and \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal 20 years 2011 through 2014, 2012, of which no less 21 than 30 percent per year (for each of fiscal years 22 2008 through 2014) 2012) shall be used for the 23 grant program under section 204 and up to 10 per-24 cent per year shall be used for the Fund established 25 under section 205(a),";

(2) by striking "\$1,000,000" in subsection (b) 1 2 and inserting "\$2,000,000"; 3 (3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the 4 following: 5 COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING Grants.— 6 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out section 209 210 the sum of \$8,000,000 for 8 fiscal years 2007 2008 through 2012, such sum to remain available until expended."; and 10 (4) by striking subsection (d). 11 (4) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the 12 following: 13 "(d) International Coral Reef Conservation 14 Program.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the 15 Secretary to carry out section 209 \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and \$10,000,000 for fiscal years 2009 through 2012, such sums to remain available until expended.". 18 SEC. 20. JUDICIAL REVIEW. 19 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is further amended

by inserting after section 218, as amended by section 19,

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the following:

1 "SEC. 219. JUDICIAL REVIEW.

- 2 SEC. 21. JUDICIAL REVIEW.
- 3 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seg.) is further amended
- 4 by inserting after section 219, as amended by section 20,
- 5 the following:
- 6 "SEC. 220. JUDICIAL REVIEW.
- 7 "(a) In General.—Judicial review of any action
- 8 taken by the Secretary under this title shall be in accord-
- 9 ance with sections 701 through 706 of title 5, United
- 10 States Code, except that—
- 11 "(1) review of any final agency action of the
- 12 Secretary taken pursuant to sections 211(e)(1) and
- 13 $\frac{211(e)(2)}{214(c)(1)}$ and $\frac{214(c)(2)}{214(c)(2)}$ may be had only
- by the filing of a complaint by an interested person
- in the United States District Court for the appro-
- priate district within 30 days after the date such
- final agency action is taken; and
- 18 "(2) review of all other final agency actions of
- 19 the Secretary under this title may be had only by
- 20 the filing of a petition for review by an interested
- 21 person in the Circuit Court of Appeals of the United
- 22 States for the District of Columbia Circuit or for the
- Federal judicial district in which such person resides
- or transacts business which is directly affected by
- 25 the action taken within 120 days after the date such
- final agency action is taken.

- 1 "(b) No Review in Enforcement Pro-
- 2 CEEDINGS.—Final agency action with respect to which re-
- 3 view could have been obtained under subsection (a)(2)
- 4 shall not be subject to judicial review in any civil or crimi-
- 5 nal proceeding for enforcement.
- 6 "(c) Cost of Litigation.—In any judicial pro-
- 7 ceeding under subsection (a), the court may award costs
- 8 of litigation (including reasonable attorney and expert wit-
- 9 ness fees) to any prevailing party whenever it determines
- 10 that such award is appropriate.".
- 11 SEC. 21. DEFINITIONS.
- 12 Section 220 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6409), as redesig-
- 13 nated, is amended to read as follows:
- 14 **"SEC. 220. DEFINITIONS.**
- 15 SEC. 22. DEFINITIONS.
- 16 Section 221 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6409), as redesig-
- 17 nated, is amended to read as follows:
- 18 "SEC. 221. DEFINITIONS.
- "In this title:
- 20 "(1) BIODIVERSITY.—The term 'biodiversity'
- 21 means the variability among living organisms from
- all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine,
- and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological
- complexes of which they are part, including diversity
- 25 within species, between species, and of ecosystems.

"(2) Conservation.—The term 'conservation' 1 2 means the use of methods and procedures necessary 3 to preserve or sustain corals and associated species 4 and habitat as resilient, diverse, viable, and self-per-5 petuating coral reef ecosystems, including all activi-6 ties associated with resource management (such as assessment, conservation, protection, restoration, 7 8 sustainable use, and management of habitat, map-9 ping, habitat monitoring, assistance in the develop-10 ment of management strategies for marine protected 11 areas and marine resources consistent with the Na-12 tional Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 et 13 seq.) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conserva-14 tion and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), 15 law enforcement, conflict resolution initiatives, and 16 community outreach and education) that promote 17 safe and ecologically sound navigation. 18

"(3) CORAL.—The term 'coral' means species of the phylum Cnidaria, including—

"(A) all species of the orders Antipatharia (black corals), Scleractinia (stony corals), Gorgonacea (horny corals), Stolonifera (organpipe corals and others), Alcyonacea (soft corals), and Helioporacea (blue coral) of the

25 class Anthozoa; and

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- "(B) all species of the families Milleporidea
 (fire corals) and Stylasteridae (stylasterid
 hydrocorals) of the class Hydrozoa.
 - "(4) CORAL REEF.—The term 'coral reef' means limestone structures composed in whole or in part of living corals, as described in paragraph (3), their skeletal remains, or both, and including other corals, associated sessile invertebrates and plants, and any adjacent or associated seagrasses.
 - "(5) CORAL REEF COMPONENT.—The term 'coral reef component' means any part of a coral reef, including individual living or dead corals, associated sessile invertebrates and plants, and any adjacent or associated seagrasses.
 - "(6) CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM.—The term 'coral reef ecosystem' means the system of coral reefs and geographically associated species, habitats, and environment, including any adjacent or associated mangroves and seagrass habitats, and the processes that control its dynamics.
 - "(7) CORAL PRODUCTS.—The term 'coral products' means any living or dead specimens, parts, or derivatives, or any product containing specimens, parts, or derivatives, of any species referred to in paragraph (3).

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1	"(8) Damages.—The term 'damages' in-
2	cludes—
3	"(A) compensation for—
4	"(i) the cost of replacing, restoring, or
5	acquiring the equivalent of the coral reef,
6	or component thereof; and
7	"(ii) the lost services of, or the value
8	of the lost use of, the coral reef or compo-
9	nent thereof, or the cost of activities to
10	minimize or prevent threats of, equivalent
11	injury to, or destruction of coral reefs or
12	components thereof, pending restoration or
13	replacement or the acquisition of an equiv-
14	alent coral reef or component thereof;
15	"(B) the reasonable cost of damage assess-
16	ments under section 212; 213;
17	"(C) the reasonable costs incurred by the
18	Secretary in implementing section 208(d);
19	"(D) the reasonable cost of monitoring ap-
20	propriate to the injured, restored, or replaced
21	resources;
22	"(E) the reasonable cost of curation, con-
23	servation and loss of contextual information of
24	any coral encrusted archaeological, historical,
25	and cultural resource;

- "(F) the cost of legal actions under section 2 212, 213, undertaken by the United States, as-3 sociated with the destruction or loss of, or in-4 jury to, a coral reef or component thereof, in-5 cluding the costs of attorney time and expert 6 witness fees; and
 - "(G) the indirect costs associated with the costs listed in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of this paragraph.
 - "(9) EMERGENCY ACTIONS.—The term 'emergency actions' means all necessary actions to prevent or minimize the additional destruction or loss of, or injury to, coral reefs or components thereof, or to minimize the risk of such additional destruction, loss, or injury.
 - "(10) EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—The term 'Exclusive Economic Zone' means the waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States under Presidential Proclamation 5030, dated March 10, 1983.
 - "(11) Person.—The term 'person' means any individual, private or public corporation, partnership, trust, institution, association, or any other public or private entity, whether foreign or domestic, private person or entity, or any officer, employee, agent, De-

1	partment, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal
2	Government, of any State or local unit of govern-
3	ment, or of any foreign government.
4	"(12) RESPONSE COSTS.—The term 'response
5	costs' means the costs of actions taken or authorized
6	by the Secretary to minimize destruction or loss of,
7	or injury to, a coral reef, or component thereof, or
8	to minimize the imminent risks of such destruction,
9	loss, or injury, including costs related to seizure, for-
10	feiture, storage, or disposal arising from liability
11	under section 212. 213.
12	"(13) Secretary.—The term 'Secretary'
13	means—
14	"(A) for purposes of sections 201 through
15	210, sections 217 through 219, 211, sections
16	218 through 220, and the other paragraphs of
17	this section, the Secretary of Commerce, acting
18	through the Administrator of the National Oce-
19	anic and Atmospheric Administration; and
20	"(B) for purposes of sections 211 through
21	219— 212 through 220—
22	"(i) the Secretary of the Interior for
23	any coral reef or component thereof located
24	in (I) the National Wildlife Refuge System,
25	(II) the National Park System, and (III)

1	the waters surrounding Wake Island under
2	the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the In-
3	terior, as set forth in Executive Order
4	11048 (27 Fed. Reg. 8851 (September 4,
5	1962)); or
6	"(ii) the Secretary of Commerce for
7	any coral reef or component thereof located
8	in any area not described in clause (i).
9	"(14) Service.—The term 'service' means
10	functions, ecological or otherwise, performed by a
11	coral reef or component thereof.
12	"(15) State.—The term 'State' means any
13	State of the United States that contains a coral reef
14	ecosystem within its seaward boundaries, American
15	Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puer-
16	to Rico, and the Virgin Islands, and any other terri-
17	tory or possession of the United States, or separate
18	sovereign in free association with the United States,
19	that contains a coral reef ecosystem within its sea-
20	ward boundaries.
21	"(16) Territorial Sea.—The term 'Terri-
22	torial Sea' means the waters of the Territorial Sea
23	of the United States under Presidential Proclama-
24	tion 5928, dated December 27, 1988.".

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110TH CONGRESS S. 1580
2D SESSION [Report No. 110-276]

A BILL

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

March 13, 2008

Reported with amendments